1   WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

2

3   1.   A shipping management computer system, said shipping management

4   computer system programmed to:

5   apply, in response to a request by any particular user of a plurality of users, a set of

6   shipping location rules for each of a plurality of carriers to a default shipping location and a

7   set of parcel specifications input by the particular requesting user, wherein each user accesses

8   the computer system over a global communications network using a client computer device,

9   each user client computer device having an individual electronic connection to the global

10   communications network.

11

12   2.   A shipping management computer system, said shipping management

13   computer system programmed to:

14   identify, in response to a request by any particular user of a plurality of users, each

15   carrier from a plurality of carriers that supports shipping a particular parcel from a default

16   shipping location input by the particular requesting user, wherein each user accesses the

17   computer system over a global communications network using a client computer device, each

18   user client computer device having an individual electronic connection to the global

19   communications network.

20

21   3.   A shipping management computer system, said shipping management

22   computer system programmed to:

23   collect as a default shipping location for each particular user of a plurality of users, a

24   user input from the particular user of an identification of a default shipping location for

25   parcels to be shipped by the particular user, wherein each user accesses the computer system

26   over a global communications network using a client computer device, each user client

27   computer having an individual electronic connection to the global communications network;

28   and

29   store in a database a record corresponding to each particular user, said record

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1   comprising an identifier for the particular user and the default shipping location for the

2   particular user.

3

4   4.   The shipping management computer system of claim 3, said shipping

5   management computer system further programmed to:

6   collect as parcel specifications for a particular parcel user input from the particular

7   user wherein the parcel specifications comprising at least one of: a package type, a set of

8   package dimensions, or a package weight of the particular parcel;

9

10   5.   The shipping management computer system of claim 4, said shipping

11   management computer system further programmed to:

12   apply a set of shipping location rules for each of a plurality of carriers to the default

13   shipping location and parcel specifications input by the particular user.

14

15   6.   The shipping management computer system of claim 5, said shipping

16   management computer system further programmed to:

17   determine for each of the plurality of carriers whether the carrier supports shipping of

18   the particular parcel according to the shipping location rules for the particular carrier as

19   applied to the parcel specifications for the particular parcel and the default shipping location

20   input by the particular user.

21

22   7.   The computer system of claim 6, said computer system further programmed

23   to:

24   calculate a shipping rate for shipping the particular parcel to be shipped by the

25   particular user for each of a plurality of services offered by each of the plurality of carriers

26   according to a set of shipping location rules for each carrier, and according to a set of pricing

27   rules for each service offered by each carrier as applied to the parcel specifications for the

28   particular parcel and the default shipping location input by the particular user.

29

1   8.   A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of

2   parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the method comprising:

3   applying, in response to a request by any particular user of a plurality of users, a set of

4   shipping location rules for each of a plurality of carriers to a default shipping location and a

5   set of parcel specifications input by the particular requesting user, wherein each user accesses

6   the computer system over a global communications network using a client computer device,

7   each user client computer device having an individual electronic connection to the global

8   communications network.

9

10   9.   A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of

11   parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the method comprising:

12   identifying, in response to a request by any particular user of a plurality of users, each

13   carrier from a plurality of carriers that supports shipping a particular parcel from a default

14   shipping location input by the particular requesting user, wherein each user accesses the

15   computer system over a global communications network using a client computer device, each

16   user client computer device having an individual electronic connection to the global

17   communications network.

18

19   10.   A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of

20   parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the method comprising:

21   collecting as a default shipping location for each particular user of a plurality of users,

22   a user input from the particular user of an identification of a default shipping location for

23   parcels to be shipped by the particular user, wherein each user accesses the computer system

24   over a global communications network using a client computer device, each user client

25   computer having an individual electronic connection to the global communications network;

26   and

27   storing in a database a record corresponding to each particular user, said record

28   comprising an identifier for the particular user and the default shipping location for the

29   particular user.

11.   A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the method comprising:

collecting as parcel specifications for a particular parcel user input from the particular user wherein the parcel specifications comprising at least one of: a package type, a set of package dimensions, or a package weight of the particular parcel;

12.   The method of Claim 11, said method further comprising:

applying a set of shipping location rules for each of a plurality of carriers to the default shipping location and parcel specifications input by the particular user.

13.   The method of Claim 12, said method further comprising:

determining for each of the plurality of carriers whether the carrier supports shipping of the particular parcel according to the shipping location rules for the particular carrier as applied to the parcel specifications for the particular parcel and the default shipping location input by the particular user.

14.   The method of Claim 13, said method further comprising:

calculating a shipping rate for shipping the particular parcel to be shipped by the particular user for each of a plurality of services offered by each of the plurality of carriers according to a set of shipping location rules for each carrier, and according to a set of pricing rules for each service offered by each carrier as applied to the parcel specifications for the particular parcel and the default shipping location input by the particular user.

15.   A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for applying, in response to a request by any particular user of a plurality of users, a set of shipping location rules for each of a plurality of carriers to

1   a default shipping location and a set of parcel specifications input by the particular

2   requesting user, wherein each user accesses the computer system over a global

3   communications network using a client computer device, each user client computer device

4   having an individual electronic connection to the global communications network.

5

6   16.   A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for

7   execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by

8   any one of a plurality of carriers, the computer program product comprising:

9   a set of program instructions for identifying, in response to a request by any particular

10   user of a plurality of users, each carrier from a plurality of carriers that supports shipping a

11   particular parcel from a default shipping location input by the particular requesting user,

12   wherein each user accesses the computer system over a global communications network

13   using a client computer device, each user client computer device having an individual

14   electronic connection to the global communications network.

15

16   17.   A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for

17   execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by

18   any one of a plurality of carriers, the computer program product comprising:

19   a set of program instructions for collecting as a default shipping location for each

20   particular user of a plurality of users, a user input from the particular user of an identification

21   of a default shipping location for parcels to be shipped by the particular user, wherein each

22   user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a client

23   computer device, each user client computer having an individual electronic connection to the

24   global communications network; and

25   a set of program instructions for storing in a database a record corresponding to each

26   particular user, said record comprising an identifier for the particular user and the default

27   shipping location for the particular user.

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29   18.   A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for

1   execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by

2   any one of a plurality of carriers, the computer program product comprising:

3   a set of program instructions for collecting as parcel specifications for a particular

4   parcel user input from the particular user wherein the parcel specifications comprising at least

5   one of: a package type, a set of package dimensions, or a package weight of the particular

6   parcel;

7

8   19.   The computer program product of Claim 18, said computer program product

9   further comprising:

10   a set of program instructions for applying a set of shipping location rules for each of a

11 plurality of carriers to the default shipping location and parcel specifications input by the

12 particular user.

13

14   20.   The computer program product of Claim 19, said computer program product

15 further comprising:

16   a set of program instructions for determining for each of the plurality of carriers

17 whether the carrier supports shipping of the particular parcel according to the shipping

18 location rules for the particular carrier as applied to the parcel specifications for the particular

19 parcel and the default shipping location input by the particular user.

20

21   21.   The computer program product of Claim 20, said computer program product

22 further comprising:

23   a set of program instructions for calculating a shipping rate for shipping the particular

24 parcel to be shipped by the particular user for each of a plurality of services offered by each

25 of the plurality of carriers according to a set of shipping location rules for each carrier, and

26 according to a set of pricing rules for each service offered by each carrier as applied to the

27 parcel specifications for the particular parcel and the default shipping location input by the

28 particular user.

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